

□ 1822

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendment was concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO PHYSICIANS IN MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RENZI). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the Senate bill, S. 2303.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. SENSENBRENNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2302, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 4, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 533]

YEAS—407

Abercrombie	Capito	Emerson
Ackerman	Capps	Engel
Aderholt	Capuano	English
Akin	Cardin	Eshoo
Alexander	Cardoza	Etheridge
Allen	Carson (IN)	Evans
Andrews	Carson (OK)	Everett
Baca	Carter	Farr
Bachus	Case	Fattah
Baird	Castle	Feeney
Baker	Chabot	Ferguson
Baldwin	Chandler	Finer
Ballenger	Chocola	Flake
Barrett (SC)	Clay	Foley
Bartlett (MD)	Clyburn	Forbes
Barton (TX)	Coble	Ford
Bass	Cole	Fossella
Beauprez	Collins	Frank (MA)
Becerra	Conyers	Franks (AZ)
Bell	Cooper	Frelinghuysen
Berkley	Costello	Frost
Berman	Cox	Gallely
Berry	Cramer	Garrett (NJ)
Biggert	Crane	Gerlach
Bilirakis	Crenshaw	Gibbons
Bishop (GA)	Crowley	Gilchrest
Bishop (NY)	Culberson	Gillmor
Bishop (UT)	Cummings	Gingrey
Blackburn	Cunningham	Gonzalez
Blumenauer	Davis (AL)	Goodlatte
Blunt	Davis (CA)	Gordon
Boehlert	Davis (FL)	Granger
Boehner	Davis (IL)	Green (TX)
Bonilla	Davis (TN)	Green (WI)
Bonner	Davis, Jo Ann	Greenwood
Bono	Davis, Tom	Grijalva
Boozman	Deal (GA)	Gutierrez
Boswell	DeFazio	Gutknecht
Boucher	DeGette	Hall
Boyd	Delahunt	Harman
Bradley (NH)	DeLauro	Harris
Brady (PA)	DeLay	Hart
Brady (TX)	DeMint	Hastings (FL)
Brown (OH)	Deutsch	Hastings (WA)
Brown (SC)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hayes
Brown, Corrine	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hayworth
Brown-Waite,	Dicks	Hefley
Ginny	Dingell	Hensarling
Burns	Doggett	Herger
Burton (IN)	Doolittle	Herseth
Butterfield	Doyle	Hill
Buyer	Dreier	Hinchey
Calvert	Edwards	Hinojosa
Camp	Ehlers	Hobson
Cantor	Emanuel	Hoefl

Hoekstra	Meek (FL)	Sandlin
Holden	Meeks (NY)	Saxton
Holt	Menendez	Schakowsky
Honda	Mica	Schiff
Hooley (OR)	Michaud	Schrock
Hostettler	Miller (FL)	Scott (GA)
Houghton	Miller (MI)	Scott (VA)
Hoyer	Miller (NC)	Sensenbrenner
Hulshof	Miller, Gary	Serrano
Hunter	Miller, George	Sessions
Hyde	Mollohan	Shadegg
Inslee	Moore	Shaw
Isakson	Moran (KS)	Shays
Israel	Moran (VA)	Sherman
Issa	Murphy	Sherwood
Istook	Myrick	Shimkus
Jackson (IL)	Nadler	Shuster
Jackson-Lee	Napolitano	Simmons
(TX)	Neal (MA)	Simpson
Jefferson	Nethercutt	Skelton
Jenkins	Neugebauer	Slaughter
Johnson (CT)	Ney	Smith (MI)
Johnson (IL)	Northup	Smith (NJ)
Johnson, E. B.	Nunes	Smith (TX)
Johnson, Sam	Nussle	Smith (WA)
Jones (OH)	Oberstar	Snyder
Kanjorski	Obey	Solis
Kaptur	Olver	Souder
Keller	Osborne	Spratt
Kelly	Ose	Stearns
Kennedy (MN)	Otter	Stenholm
Kennedy (RI)	Owens	Strickland
Kildee	Oxley	Stupak
Kind	Pallone	Sullivan
King (IA)	Pascarell	Sweeney
King (NY)	Pastor	Tancred
Kingston	Paul	Tanner
Kirk	Payne	Tauscher
Kline	Pearce	Tauzin
Knollenberg	Pelosi	Taylor (MS)
Kolbe	Pence	Taylor (NC)
Kucinich	Peterson (MN)	Terry
LaHood	Peterson (PA)	Thomas
Lampson	Petri	Thompson (CA)
Langevin	Pickering	Thompson (MS)
Lantos	Pitts	Thornberry
Larsen (WA)	Platts	Tiahrt
Larsen (CT)	Pombo	Tiberi
Latham	Pomeroy	Tierney
LaTourette	Porter	Towns
Leach	Portman	Turner (OH)
Lee	Price (NC)	Turner (TX)
Levin	Pryce (OH)	Udall (CO)
Lewis (CA)	Putnam	Udall (NM)
Lewis (GA)	Quinn	Upton
Lewis (KY)	Radanovich	Van Hollen
Linder	Rahall	Velázquez
Lipinski	Ramstad	Visclosky
LoBiondo	Rangel	Vitter
Lofgren	Regula	Walden (OR)
Lowe	Rehberg	Walsh
Lucas (KY)	Renzi	Wamp
Lucas (OK)	Reyes	Waters
Lynch	Reynolds	Watson
Majette	Rodriguez	Watt
Maloney	Rogers (AL)	Waxman
Manzullo	Rogers (KY)	Weiner
Markey	Rogers (MI)	Weldon (FL)
Marshall	Ros-Lehtinen	Weldon (PA)
Matheson	Ross	Weller
Matsui	Roybal-Allard	Wexler
McCarthy (MO)	Royce	Whitfield
McCollum	Ruppersberger	Wicker
McCotter	Rush	Wilson (NM)
McCrery	Ryan (OH)	Wilson (SC)
McGovern	Ryan (WI)	Wolf
McHugh	Ryun (KS)	Woolsey
McInnis	Sabo	Wu
McIntyre	Sánchez, Linda	Wynn
McKeon	T.	Young (AK)
McNulty	Sanchez, Loretta	Young (FL)
Meehan	Sanders	

NAYS—4

Duncan	Jones (NC)
Goode	Rohrabacher

NOT VOTING—21

Burgess	John	Musgrave
Burr	Kilpatrick	Norwood
Cannon	Klecza	Ortiz
Cubin	McCarthy (NY)	Rothman
Dooley (CA)	McDermott	Stark
Dunn	Millender-	Toomey
Gephardt	McDonald	
Graves	Murtha	

□ 1831

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, personal reasons require me to return to my district, and I am unable to be present for legislative business scheduled after 3 p.m., Wednesday, November 17, 2004. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 1417, the Copyright Royalty and Distribution Reform Act of 2004 (rollcall Vote No. 532), and "aye" on S. 2302, a bill to improve access to physicians in medically underserved areas (rollcall Vote No. 533).

PERMISSION TO FILE CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1350, IMPROVING EDUCATION RESULTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 2003

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the managers on the part of the House on H.R. 1350 be permitted until midnight to file a conference report on H.R. 1350.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RENZI). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

APPOINTING DAY FOR THE CONVENING OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE 109TH CONGRESS

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a joint resolution (H.J. Res. 111) and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the joint resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.J. RES. 111

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first regular session of the One Hundred Ninth Congress shall begin at noon on Tuesday, January 4, 2005.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Financial Services be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3204) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the tercentenary of

the birth of Benjamin Franklin, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Delaware?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 3204

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Benjamin Franklin Commemorative Coin Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Benjamin Franklin made historic contributions to the development of our Nation in a number of fields: government, business, science, communications, and the arts.

(2) Benjamin Franklin was the only Founding Father to sign all of our nation’s organizational documents.

(3) Benjamin Franklin spent his career as a successful printer, which included printing the official currency for the colonies of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland.

(4) Franklin’s “Essay on Paper Currency” of 1741 proposed methods to fix the rate of exchange between the colonies and Great Britain.

(5) Benjamin Franklin, during the American Revolution, designed the first American coin, the “Continental” penny.

(6) Franklin made “A Penny Saved is A Penny Earned” a household phrase to describe the American virtues of hard work and economical living.

(7) Franklin played a major role in the design of the Great Seal of the United States, which appears on the One Dollar Bill and other major American symbols.

(8) Before 1779 Benjamin Franklin was the only non-president of the United States whose image graced circulating coin and paper currency.

(9) The official United States half dollar from 1948–1963 showed Franklin’s portrait, as designed by John Sinnock.

(10) Franklin’s “Way to Wealth” has come to symbolize America’s commitment to free enterprise.

(11) The Franklin Institute Science Museum in Philadelphia houses the first steam printing machine for coinage, used by the United States Mint, which was placed in service in 1836, the 130th anniversary year of Franklin’s birth.

(12) In 1976, Franklin Hall in The Franklin Institute Science Museum in Philadelphia was named the Official National Monument to the great patriot, scientist and inventor.

(13) The Franklin Institute and four other major Franklin-related Philadelphia cultural institutions joined hands in 2000 to organize international programs to commemorate the forthcoming 300th anniversary of Franklin’s birth in 2006.

(14) The Congress passed the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Act in 2002, creating a panel of distinguished Americans, with its Secretariat in Philadelphia, to work with the private sector in recommending appropriate Tercentenary programs.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) \$1 SILVER COINS WITH YOUNGER FRANKLIN IMAGE ON OBERVERSE.—Not more than 250,000 \$1 coins bearing the designs specified in section 4(a)(2), each of which shall—

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS WITH OLDER FRANKLIN IMAGE ON OBERVERSE.—Not more than 250,000 \$1 coins bearing the designs specified in section 4(a)(3), each of which shall—

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(d) USE OF THE UNITED STATES MINT AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.—It is the sense of the Congress that the coins minted under this Act should be struck at the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to the greatest extent possible.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the life and legacy of Benjamin Franklin.

(2) \$1 COINS WITH YOUNGER FRANKLIN IMAGE.—

(A) OBERVERSE.—The obverse of the coins minted under section 3(a)(1) shall bear the image of Benjamin Franklin as a young man.

(B) REVERSE.—The reverse of the coins minted under section 3(a)(1) shall bear an image related to Benjamin Franklin’s role as a patriot and a statesman.

(3) \$1 COINS WITH OLDER FRANKLIN IMAGE.—

(A) OBERVERSE.—The obverse of the coins minted under section 3(a)(2) shall bear the image of Benjamin Franklin as an older man.

(B) REVERSE.—The reverse of the coins minted under section 3(a)(2) shall bear an image related to Benjamin Franklin’s role in developing the early coins and currency of the new country.

(4) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

(A) a designation of the value of the coin;

(B) an inscription of the year “2006”; and

(C) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coin Advisory Committee established under section 5135 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January 1, 2006, except that the Secretary may initiate sales of such coins, without issuance, before such date.

(c) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No coins shall be minted under this Act after December 31, 2006.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the face value, plus the cost of designing and issuing such coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, and marketing).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS AT A DISCOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

(d) SALES OF SINGLE COINS AND SETS OF COINS.—Coins of each design specified under section 4 may be sold separately or as a set containing a coin of each such design.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) SURCHARGE REQUIRED.—All sales shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges which are received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission, to be used to educate people everywhere about the important legacy of Benjamin Franklin.

(c) AUDITS.—The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code.

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
OFFERED BY MR. CASTLE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. CASTLE:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Benjamin Franklin Commemorative Coin Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Benjamin Franklin made historic contributions to the development of our Nation in a number of fields: government, business, science, communications, and the arts.

(2) Benjamin Franklin was the only Founding Father to sign all of our Nation’s organizational documents.

(3) Benjamin Franklin spent his career as a successful printer, which included printing the official currency for the colonies of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland.

(4) Franklin’s “Essay on Paper Currency” of 1741 proposed methods to fix the rate of exchange between the colonies and Great Britain.

(5) Benjamin Franklin, during the American Revolution, designed the first American coin, the “Continental” penny.

(6) Franklin made “A Penny Saved is A Penny Earned” a household phrase to describe the American virtues of hard work and economical living.

(7) Franklin played a major role in the design of the Great Seal of the United States, which appears on the One Dollar Bill and other major American symbols.

(8) Before 1779, Benjamin Franklin was the only non-president of the United States whose image graced circulating coin and paper currency.

(9) The official United States half dollar from 1948–1963 showed Franklin’s portrait, as designed by John Sinnock.

(10) Franklin’s “Way to Wealth” has come to symbolize America’s commitment to free enterprise.

(11) The Franklin Institute Science Museum in Philadelphia houses the first steam printing machine for coinage, used by the United States Mint, which was placed in service in 1836, the 130th anniversary year of Franklin’s birth.

(12) In 1976, Franklin Hall in The Franklin Institute Science Museum in Philadelphia was named the Official National Monument to the great patriot, scientist and inventor.

(13) The Franklin Institute and four other major Franklin-related Philadelphia cultural institutions joined hands in 2000 to organize international programs to commemorate the forthcoming 300th anniversary of Franklin's birth in 2006.

(14) The Congress passed the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Act in 2002, creating a panel of distinguished Americans, with its Secretariat in Philadelphia, to work with the private sector in recommending appropriate Tercentenary programs,

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) \$1 SILVER COINS WITH YOUNGER FRANKLIN IMAGE ON OVERSE.—Not more than 250,000 \$1 coins bearing the designs specified in section 4(a)(2), each of which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS WITH OLDER FRANKLIN IMAGE ON OVERSE.—Not more than 250,000 \$1 coins bearing the designs specified in section 4(a)(3), each of which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (C) contain 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(d) USE OF THE UNITED STATES MINT AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.—It is the sense of the Congress that the coins minted under this Act should be struck at the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to the greatest extent possible.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the life and legacy of Benjamin Franklin.

(2) \$1 COINS WITH YOUNGER FRANKLIN IMAGE.—

(A) OVERSE.—The obverse of the coins minted under section 3(a)(1) shall bear the image of Benjamin Franklin as a young man.

(B) REVERSE.—The reverse of the coins minted under section 3(a)(1) shall bear an image related to Benjamin Franklin's role as a patriot and a statesman.

(3) \$1 COINS WITH OLDER FRANKLIN IMAGE.—

(A) OVERSE.—The obverse of the coins minted under section 3(a)(2) shall bear the image of Benjamin Franklin as an older man.

(B) REVERSE.—The reverse of the coins minted under section 3(a)(2) shall bear an image related to Benjamin Franklin's role in developing the early coins and currency of the new country.

(4) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

- (A) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (B) an inscription of the year "2010"; and
- (C) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(b) SELECTION.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

- (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee established under section 5135 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) COMMENCEMENT OF ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act beginning January 1, 2006, except that the Secretary may initiate sales of such coins, without issuance, before such date.

(c) TERMINATION OF MINTING AUTHORITY.—No coins shall be minted under this Act after December 31, 2006.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the face value, plus the cost of designing and issuing such coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, and marketing).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS AT A DISCOUNT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

(d) SALES OF SINGLE COINS AND SETS OF COINS.—Coins of each design specified under section 4 may be sold separately or as a set containing a coin of each such design.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) SURCHARGE REQUIRED.—All sales shall include a surcharge of \$10 per coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges which are received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Franklin Institute for purposes of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission.

(c) AUDITS.—The Franklin Institute shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received by the Institute pursuant to subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary of the Treasury may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

Mr. CASTLE (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment in the nature of a substitute be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Delaware?

There was no objection.

The amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3204, the Benjamin Franklin Commemorative Coin Act of 2004. I want to thank the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) for his efforts on this bill's behalf and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. FRANK)

for allowing us to move forward with this legislation.

I also want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS), the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means for his efforts in speeding consideration of the bill. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting at this point an exchange of correspondence between myself and the gentleman from California confirming our understanding regarding the jurisdiction of our two committees.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, October 8, 2004.

Hon. MICHAEL G. OXLEY,

Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN OXLEY: I am writing concerning H.R. 3204, the "Benjamin Franklin Commemorative Coin Act," which is scheduled for floor consideration today.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over matters that concern raising revenue. Section 7 of the bill establishes a surcharge for each sale of the commemorative coins that are minted under the bill, and thus falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

However, in order to expedite this legislation for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on this bill. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 3204, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration.

Best regards,

BILL THOMAS,
Chairman.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

Washington, DC, October 8, 2004.

Hon. WILLIAM M. THOMAS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMAS: Thank you for your letter regarding your Committee's jurisdictional interest in H.R. 3204, the Benjamin Franklin Commemorative Coin Act.

I acknowledge your committee's jurisdictional interest in this legislation and appreciate your cooperation in moving the bill to the House floor expeditiously. I agree that your decision to forego further action on the bill will not prejudice the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation, and I would support your request for conferees on those provisions within your committee's jurisdiction should this bill be the subject of a House-Senate conference.

I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Congressional Record when the legislation is considered by the House.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL G. OXLEY,
Chairman.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members